



NEWS FROM BELGIAN-ALLIANCE CREDIT UNION

## \$40,000 Patronage Payout for 2020 AND FURTHER DIVIDEND PAYMENT

### Dear Belgian-Alliance Credit Union Members:

To reward YOU, our members, for your continued support, the Belgian-Alliance Credit Union (BACU) board of directors is proud to declare a patronage refund for 2020, with the credit union returning **\$40,000** to our member-owners.

The board has also approved a dividend payment of 1.70% (our 5-year term fixed rate) on outstanding shares held at BACU. This dividend was paid last December and represents yet another benefit of belonging to our credit union. Since its creation in 2008, **BACU has paid more than \$335,000 in dividends to our members**, for a total of **more than \$1,475,000** in patronage and dividend allocations.

While many credit unions no longer issue patronage refunds, your board believes that allowing our members to share in profits is one of the cornerstones of the credit union system. Patronage will be paid to members based on the amount of interest paid to the credit union (loans) and the amount of interest earned (deposits).

As an owner, you receive patronage allocations in the form of surplus shares paid directly to your account(s). These values increase by way of additional patronage allocations as well as through any dividends paid to you when declared by the Board. Once the value of your surplus shares reaches \$1,000 any future payments are accessible and can be withdrawn in the form of a cash payment. It pays to be a BACU member!

We, the board of directors, appreciate your continued support. We look to continue rewarding our membership in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Remi Brengman".

REMI BRENGMAN • Chair, Board of Directors

### Virtual Annual Meeting Thursday, April 29

Belgian-Alliance Credit Union will hold its **2020 Annual General Meeting** on **Thursday, April 29**. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The AGM will be held virtually and, while BACU staff and directors always look forward to meeting with members in person at our AGM, we made the decision to switch to a virtual platform this year to keep everyone safe and play our part in slowing the spread of COVID-19.

**Registration instructions were included with this newsletter.**

A red circular callout containing the text "Mark your calendar!" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**DIRECTOR ELECTION** will be conducted via **MAIL-IN BALLOT**

See enclosed instructions to register and receive your ballot

## Giving Back to Community in 2020

From the day we opened, Belgian–Alliance Credit Union has been committed to living our co-operative values by giving back to the communities we serve. While the COVID–19 pandemic made it impossible for most events to be held in person in 2020, BACU was there with generous donations and sponsorships for these worthy community groups:



## International Credit Union Day... Paying it forward to our members!

Belgian–Alliance Credit Union celebrated **International Credit Union Day** on October 15, 2020 by holding a draw for **ten cash prizes of \$50 each!** Every member with an active account was automatically entered! Among the ten lucky winners were **Robert Dodds, Sarah Castillo, Allen Gergulich** and **Charles Brunet.**

**Congratulations to our winners!**



## Honouring Retiring Directors



Jim Beaulieu



Bob Seys

*With heavy hearts, we announce the retirement from BACU's board of two long-serving directors.*

**Jim Beaulieu** joined the board in 1981 and has chaired the Audit and Risk Management Committee for most of those years. A certified accountant, Jim has effectively implemented a strong risk-based framework and oversight capability which will be used for years to come. Always well prepared, Jim applied his passion, insights and keen interest in learning to good use. We extend our deep gratitude to him for his many years of dedication. He will be truly missed.

For over 12 years, **Bob Seys** has been a dedicated BACU director. From his successful career in real estate, he brought to his role a keen business sense and insights into the credit union's oversight, business plan, governance and planning sessions. Over the years, Bob participated on the Audit and Risk Management, Governance and Executive committees, and served for the last several years as vice-chair. We wish Bob the very best now that he's "fully retired" and thank him for his years of dedicated service.

## After 31 years, David Domes calls it a career

Last August, BACU's Chief Operating Officer **David Domes** (who also served as Chief Innovation Officer to lead last year's core banking conversion) retired after 31 years in the Manitoba credit union system. While much of his career was spent as General Manager of Sanford Credit Union, David's tremendous dedication and work ethic made a significant impact over his seven years at BACU. David always relished the opportunity to give back through his work with the Cooperative Development Fund, mentoring more than a dozen credit unions in Ghana and Malawi. On behalf of the staff and board of Belgian–Alliance Credit Union, thank you for all you've done, and best wishes for a wonderful retirement.



## Cybersecurity Awareness

As the use of digital devices and channels for banking grows more popular with every passing year, here are some tips to keep you and your money safe online:

- Keep your devices and software up to date with the latest security upgrades
- Use Anti-virus programs
- Use strong passwords and/or two-step verification
- Ensure you are using a secure network connection
- Avoid using public wifi
- Never click on a link in an email from an unknown source, or that you were not expecting
- Never log into an account by clicking on a link. Visit the secure website login page or use the mobile app.

Take advantage of the **myBACU Mobile App's**

Multi-factor Authentication and Alert options

- **Multi-factor Authentication** uses Face Recognition and Fingerprint Authentication to access your account(s), for an additional layer of security.
- **Enable 'Alerts'** to have notifications sent by email or text message to alert you to login attempts, password changes, new bill payees and more.



**INTERAC e-Transfer® 'intercepts'** are increasingly common method of online fraud that occurs when a fraudster intercepts an e-Transfer and deposits the funds into their own account. To help reduce the risk, be sure to:

- Use strong passwords
- NEVER share your passwords
- NEVER include the answer to a security question in the e-Transfer message. Use another method if sending the password.
- Sign up for the e-Transfer 'Autodeposit' feature to greatly reduce the chances of 'intercept' fraud.



## Committed to members in uncertain times

Throughout the unprecedented disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Belgian-Alliance Credit Union has remained open and available to serve both personal and businesses members. We've implemented various protocols to ensure member and staff safety, and have worked tirelessly to support members during this challenging time, with a variety of government and internal interest and payment relief programs. We are committed to our members and will work one-on-one with you to achieve the best possible outcome. We are here for YOU.

**Launching in early 2022 – BACU's new Website, Online Banking and Mobile App! Stay tuned for details!**

## Plan for your future... TODAY!



**Erin Fitzgerald**

Wealth Management Advisor

Belgian-Alliance Credit Union has been offering professional Wealth Management services to every member, **free of charge**, since 2013.

We offer a wide variety of investment options, including Retirement Savings (RRSP), Children's Education Savings (RESP), Disability Savings (RDSP), Tax-Free Savings (TFSA), Term Deposits and General Savings. We can provide advice and help manage pension transfers, pension one-time unlocking and severance packages.

Wealth Management Advisor **Erin Fitzgerald** has over 30 years of industry experience. Whether you're ready to start planning for your retirement, want to see if you are on track, or simply require a second opinion on what you currently have, Erin would be pleased to meet with you at any of our three branch locations to discuss your needs or concerns.

You can reach Erin directly at **204.293.0179**

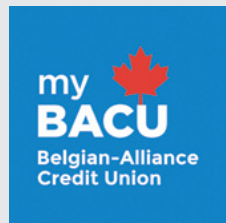


## 2019 Annual Meeting

Last September 23, Belgian-Alliance Credit Union held its Annual General Meeting by telephone — the first time since the Belgian Sacred Hearts Society was chartered in 1939! We thank all who attended and made it a great success. Congratulations to the winners of \$100 cash door prizes: **Yvonne Hein**, **Diane Jaslowski** and **Jules Trudeau**.

## Do you have RSPs, TFSAs or RIFs with BACU?

Your **designation of beneficiary** by means of a designation form will not be revoked or changed automatically by any future marriage or divorce. Should you wish to change your beneficiary on your registered products in the event of a future marriage or divorce, you will have to do so by means of a new designation.



The **Member Advantage** newsletter is published to inform members about financial matters and the credit union's activities.

Your comments and story ideas are welcome. Send or bring them to any branch, or e-mail to: [info@bacumail.ca](mailto:info@bacumail.ca)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
**Martin Trudeau**

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER  
**Kevin Baun**

CONTROLLER  
**Iurii Zhuk**

### PROVENCHER BRANCH

387 Provencher Boulevard  
Winnipeg MB R2H 0G9  
Tel 204.982.3400  
Fax 204.233.8644  
Mon-Wed 9:30 am-5:00 pm  
Thur-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm  
[provencher@bacumail.ca](mailto:provencher@bacumail.ca)

### PORTAGE BRANCH

1177 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3G 0T2  
Tel 204.927.0460  
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Mon-Wed 9:30 am-5:00 pm  
Thur-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm  
[portage@bacumail.ca](mailto:portage@bacumail.ca)

### JEFFERSON BRANCH

101-930 Jefferson Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R2P 1W1  
Tel 204.927.0450  
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Mon-Wed 9:30 am-5:00 pm  
Thur-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm  
[jefferson@bacumail.ca](mailto:jefferson@bacumail.ca)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR  
**Remi Brengman**  
VICE-CHAIR  
**John Vandewater**  
CORPORATE SECRETARY  
**Joanne Mercier**

**Bohdana Bashuk**  
**Jim Beaulieu**  
**Ian Dunne**  
**Marc Lemoine**  
**Rachelle Needham**  
**Bob Seys**

## Whatever your needs... We have the right card for you!

BACU's suite of personal and business cards from Mastercard® offers generous rewards and benefits, designed to meet **your** needs.

Choose from Classic, Cash Back, Gold, Travel Rewards, U.S. Dollar and more!

Find the card that's right for you!  
Apply today — at your branch or at [belgianalliancecu.mb.ca](http://belgianalliancecu.mb.ca)



## Seeking Candidates for the Board of Directors

Are you community-minded? Love to learn? Want to make a positive contribution to your credit union?

You may have *exactly* what it takes to serve as a director on the board of Belgian-Alliance Credit Union.

If you're interested in hearing more, please contact us at [nominations@bacumail.ca](mailto:nominations@bacumail.ca)

## Credit Union Holidays 2021 All Branches Closed

- Friday, April 2 Good Friday
- Monday, May 24 Victoria Day
- Thursday, July 1 Canada Day
- Monday, August 2 Terry Fox Day
- Monday, September 6 Labour Day
- Monday, October 11 Thanksgiving Day
- Thursday, November 11 Remembrance Day
- Monday, December 27 Christmas Day (in lieu)
- Tuesday, December 28 Boxing Day (in lieu)

All branches will close at 1:30 pm on Christmas Eve Friday, December 24 and New Year's Eve Friday, December 31



Surcharge-free cash withdrawals available 365 days a year at more than 200 credit union ATMs in Manitoba!

